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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/801,187	03/08/2001	Kazuyuki Yokokawa	P66458US0	4101

7590 05/27/2004

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EXAMINER

AHMAD, NASSER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1772

DATE MAILED: 05/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/801,187

Applicant(s)

YOKOKAWA, KAZUYUKI

Examiner

Nasser Ahmad

Art Unit

1772

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on March 4, 4002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 78-83,85-99,101-115,117-131 and 133-147 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 78-83,85-88,90-99,101-104,106-115,117-120,122-131,133-136 and 138-147 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 89,105,121 and 137 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Rejections Withdrawn

1. Claims 78-87, 89-103, 105-119, 121-135 and 137-142 rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Cancio in view of applicant's amendment filed on March 4, 2004.
2. Claims 1-142 rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cancio in view of Kishimoto in view of the amendment.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 78-83, 85-99, 101-115, 117-131 and 133-147 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 78-83, 85-87, 90-99, 101-103, 106-115, 117-119, 122-131, 133-135 and 138-147 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Birnbaum (5296279).

Birnbaum relates to a sheet structure (10) comprising a first layer (12) and a second layer (22) attached to a planar surface of the first layer to form a multi-layered sheet

Art Unit: 1772

(figures 1-2). The first layer is provided with a plurality of continuous cut (20) lines cut completely through the first layer but not entirely through the thickness of the multi-layered sheet (figure-2), the cut lines defining a plurality of sheet portions on the sheet. At least one of the first and second layers being selected and constructed, and the cut lines being configured, such that the sheet can be bent upwardly or downwardly along at least some of the cut lines to separate the sheet portions into a plurality of individual sheets. For example, the postage stamps would be removable from the carrier sheet along the cut lines and by bending the sheet, without any tearing action.

The postage stamp is well known to have printed information thereon such as photographs, pictures, images, characters, etc. thereon and the bottom layer is also conventionally known to have instructional and/or advertisement thereon.

The cut lines (20) are die cut lines and configured by their depth, groove and shape to provide the split. As shown in figure-1, the cut lines include horizontal and vertical cut lines forming a matrix.

As shown in figure-2, an adhesive layer (18) is provided between the first and the second layers.

The multi-layer sheet includes a paper layer and the second layer is a printing paper or film (column 2).

The plurality of cut lines form an entire perimeter of at least one of the sheet portions.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the

Art Unit: 1772

applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 78-83, 85-88, 90-99, 101-104, 106-115, 117-120, 122-131, 133-136 and 138-147 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Attia (6016618).

Attia relates to a sheet structure (10) comprising a first layer (13) and a second layer (20) adhered together with pressure sensitive adhesive (24). As shown in figures 3 and 4, the first layer has a plurality of continuous cut lines that cut completely through the first layer but not through the thickness of the multi-layered sheet to define a plurality of sheet portions (16). At least the first and second layers are selected and constructed, and the cut lines are configured such that the sheet can be bent upwardly or downwardly along at least some of the cut lines to separate and split the sheet portions. For example, when the sheet (10) is bent, then a sheet portion (16) is split and is removed from the structure.

The first and the second layer are printable, including electrophotographic print (col. 3, lines 49-50), hence photoreceptive.

The cut lines are configured by their depth, groove width and shape to provide the split.

The die cut lines form the entire perimeter of the sheet portions and the vertical and horizontal cut lines form a matrix.

The laminated article includes paper, polymeric film, etc.

Art Unit: 1772

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 89, 105, 121 and 137 are free of the prior art uncovered so far in that the second layer is paper or film and the first layer includes dissolved resin directly applied to the printing paper or film to form the multi layered sheet.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nasser Ahmad whose telephone number is 571-272-1487. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, and on alternate Friday.

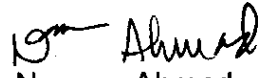
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon can be reached on 571-272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Art Unit: 1772

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Nasser Ahmad
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1772

N. Ahmad
May 24, 2004.